

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (New): A composition comprising:

Aureobasidium β -1,3-1,6-glucan, and

heat-killed *Enterococcus faecalis*.

Claim 10 (New): The composition of claim 1, which contains 1 to 80% by mass β -1,3-1, 6-glucan, and 4 to 95% by mass *Enterococcus faecalis* cells

Claim 11 (New): The composition of claim 9, wherein the *Aureobasidium* β -1,3-1,6-glucan is from *Aureobasidium pullulans*.

Claim 12 (New): The composition of claim 9, wherein the *Aureobasidium* β -1,3-1,6-glucan is from *Aureobasidium pullulans* M-1 (FERM BP-08615).

Claim 13 (New): The composition of claim 9, wherein the *Enterococcus faecalis* has been heat-killed at 100°C for 30 mins.

Claim 14 (New): The composition of claim 9, wherein the *Enterococcus faecalis* is selected from the group consisting of strains identified by ATCC 19433, ATCC 14508, ATCC 123655, and IFO 16803.

Claim 15 (New): A constipation-relieving agent comprising the composition of claim 9.

Claim 16 (New): A skin moisturizer comprising the composition of claim 9.

Claim 17 (New): An immunopotentiator comprising the composition of claim 9.

Claim 18 (New): A food or beverage comprising the composition of claim 9.

Claim 19 (New): A food or beverage comprising the composition of claim 9 and at least one fruit or vegetable juice or miso.

Claim 20 (New): A method for relieving constipation comprising administering an effective amount of the composition of claim 9 to a subject in need thereof.

Claim 21 (New): A method for moisturizing skin comprising applying an effective amount of the composition of claim 9 to the skin of a subject in need thereof.

Claim 22 (New): A method for immunopotentiating an immune response in a subject comprising administering an effective amount of the composition of claim 9 to a subject in need thereof.